

# Western



# Religion Harvest

## FALL BULLETIN

1956

### Frontiers of Need

There are frontiers of need in Home Missions. Frontiers which demand creative thinking and courageous action. The Migrant Ministry was pleased when a denominational executive praised the present program as well as the projected plans and stated that they were "as creative as anything undertaken in home missions in the last ten years."

The Migrant Ministry pioneered in the development of an effective spiritual, educational and social service ministry to the agricultural migrant. That pioneering spirit continues. Each season finds the program further enlarged and improved. New services are added as needs arise and as resources are available.

Tragic accidents to children and repeated requests from concerned growers have caused the establishment of Child Care Centers.

To combat early school "drop-outs", classes in remedial readings and simple arithmetic are held. Experimental "make-up" schools have proven so successful that additional schools are planned for next year.

Nor are adults overlooked for there are literacy classes, citizenship education instruction, and many other classes conducted in most camps.

A migrant mother who unknowingly gave her tiny baby orange soda pop instead of orange juice is but one of many evidences of the need for health education. In cooperation with local, state and federal Public Health Agencies, a program of health education and health clinics has been inaugurated in many camps.

The weekend brought thousands of migrants into town and because they had no place to go and nothing to do, were often in trouble. The establishment of a weekend Community Center solved this problem.

A young lad, slowly going blind, brought about the creation of an emergency service fund. Through the efforts of the local migrant committee, an aroused church, and dedicated Christian doctors, a corneal transplant was made and the young lad sees again.

A Mexican National was given a Bible and taught to read. Returning to Mexico he bought five more Bibles for his family. Today, in a little remote Mexican village there is a congregation of Protestant Christians because of his faith. To serve more Nationals and to send them back to Mexico with a contagious faith, "Operation Bracero" is being developed.

The desire to settle down and to have a home is strong in the heart of the migrant. They grasp desperately at every opportu-



ity, even if it is only a tent along the river bank, a shack on ground which is theirs only by squatter's rights, or a spot in some rural slum on the edge of an agricultural community. Forced into the least desirable areas, often without water, sewage, police or fire protection, these slums are as bad as anything to be found in America.

These areas, bad as they may be, do not represent the end of ambition or the abandonment of hope, but rather is an expression of the first intense desire to escape from the migrant stream and to find a better way of life. They represent the awakening of ambition and hope. The Migrant Ministry is determined that these people shall continue to have the help of the Church.

This fall, the program is therefore being extended into these areas. With the help of concerned denominations, experimental projects are already in operation, in order to discover the most effective way of bringing the Christian message and the ministry of the Church to these areas. Additional programs will be undertaken in the next few months.

Yes, the Migrant Ministry grows and expands. The program becomes increasingly effective yet there can be no rest or reduction of effort. Even with all that is being done, only slightly over 10% of the agricultural migrants are being reached with the Christian message. Truly, here is a

"MISSION FIELD - U.S.A."  
and the  
"FIELDS ARE WHITE UNTO HARVEST"





## MIGRANT MINISTRY

### Division of Home Missions

### Field Program Staff

**NATIONAL COUNCIL of CHURCHES**  
3330 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles 18  
Rev. Dean S. Collins Regional Director

#### State Directors....

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Your name will be placed on the mailing list upon request to this office

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Mary McFarland California  
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Rev. Geo. W. Stearns California  
C. Pat Theimer On Educational Leave  
Rev. Roger Thomas California  
Mrs. Mary H. Lundsberg Secretary  
Mrs. Sue Miner Asst. Sec'y

### BAD NEWS

The Migrant Ministry suffered a severe and crippling loss shortly before the close of the summer program. Visualize, if you can, a Circuit Rider without his horse, or a church whose entire building has been destroyed, for then you will realize, in part, what this loss meant to the program.

As Rev. George Stearns was enroute home from Fresno one Saturday night, in the Harvester assigned to him, he was struck head-on by another car. Fortunately, no-one was injured, although the Harvester was completely demolished.

The very next night, two of the summer volunteers were enroute home following a presentation of the Migrant Ministry at an evening church service. The Harvester which they were driving was struck from the rear and, bouncing four times off the concrete wall of the underpass, it too was demolished. Again, almost miraculously, no-one was seriously injured.

The loss of these mobile units is a severe blow to the entire program. An intensive effort is being made to raise the money necessary to replace these Harvesters. The story of the accidents and our loss was told in the publication, "The Church At Work" of the Northern California Council of Churches.

Almost immediately a check for \$25 was received, together with a note which is even more wonderful than the gift. We would like to share this letter with you.  
(See next column)

Since then, others have responded and by using the money provided by the Insurance Company, it has been possible to replace one of these mobile units, and that new Harvester is already in service in Fresno County. An additional \$2,100 is needed to replace the other unit.

We trust this will soon be possible for, even as a Circuit Rider is helpless without his horse, so our staff is handicapped without the use of a Harvester.

Sept. 11, 1956

"Dear Mr. Still:

We read in the recent issue of The Church At Work about the accidents which destroyed the two Harvesters and know, in part, what a great loss to the migrant work it must be.

I am in no position financially to aid but we have a son, 21 years old, who has always tithed and, as he earns more during vacation than the school year, he has a little extra to give to areas of need in the work at large of the churches.

This twenty-five dollars he would like to add to the fund which will make possible the needed replacements.

Very sincerely yours,  
Mrs. ....



### Social Security Amendments

Farm Labor received a setback in the new Social Security Amendments, which become effective on January 1st, 1957.

Under the "old" law, a farm wage-worker was covered by Social Security if paid \$100 by the same farmer in a calendar year. Beginning in 1957, a worker must earn \$150 from the same farmer in order to be included.

Another new provision covers a person if he works twenty days from a single employer on a time basis (rather than piece work). This excludes most migrants.

The new law makes the crew leader the employer, rather than the farmer. The Department of Labor opposed this shift of responsibility as establishing a dangerous precedent, which might allow any employer to use a middleman to escape responsibility that was legally his.

The Department of Labor, in a prepared statement, said that "approximately one-half or 250,000 migrant workers will be eliminated from the Social Security rolls (by this change in the law) wanted the only

Therefore, the advance which was hailed as a great victory when the migrant laborers were included in Social Security at the beginning of 1955, has already been modified to the loss of the agricultural migrant.

### Regulation of Migrant Transportation Becomes Law

On August 3rd, Pres. Eisenhower signed into law, the bill passed by Congress to regulate interstate transportation of migrant labor. This measure will be administered by the Interstate Commerce Commission and is intended to improve safety conditions on trucks hauling migrant workers, other than members of a single family.



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### WHAT THE SUMMER HAS MEANT TO ME

Even if my heart were an inkwell, or my hand a fountain pen, I would fail to have enough words to describe what this summer has meant to me. But, in the deepest part of my being there is a great satisfaction for the opportunity to tell the story of Jesus Christ to those who seem to have been forgotten by the community and our society in general.

Yolanda Dehesa

My summer has meant sharing the love that God can show through me, when I am a willing vessel. It has taught me continual need for a renewal by the Spirit and a greater dependency upon God.

Chan

The summer has shown me that there is much work to be done in God's Kingdom. Many of these migratory folk are confused, disheartened, longing for spiritual guidance, and need our help. I thank God for all the experiences of this summer. He is the answer to all our needs.

Bernice Regier

This summer has been, by far, the greatest learning experience of my life. I will become to teach, but those I came to teach have taught me... more about life, its hopes, security, its joys, and most of all, its purpose. Although I was convinced that I the law wanted to serve Christ by serving others, this summer has made me realize that it is the only way to true happiness.

Kay Moseley

There are many things to learn in life which cannot be found in a book, yet are beginning found in the eyes of a migrant child. I feel that I am a better person for having known these people. My understanding of human nature has increased and through this understanding comes a stronger faith. I daily thank God for the opportunity of serving these people who, in turn, served me.

Marilyn Collins

The experience of meeting, living and worshipping with people of other races and religions has made me realize that no matter what the color of a person's skin, or what his theology might be, there is one Spirit Who brings us together on a common basis in the sight of God.

Evonne Lux

This summer I have been introduced to a different way of living -- that of the migratory laborer. I have tasted peace that comes through service, and joy from a child's smile. A Christian concern and love, a deeper faith in God and humanity, and personal spiritual growth are mine as a result of my participation in the Migrant Ministry.

Sharon Miller

This summer has been a proving ground testing my Christian faith. With God's help I learned to love the unloved. I made friends with a people different from myself. A mountain-top experience in living day-to-day Christianity was taught to me by one of my team members.

Barbara Flory

Each summer, college students and young adults volunteer their vacations in Christian service with the Migrant Ministry. They come from all parts of the United States as well as some foreign countries and represent at least fifteen denominations.

Without their help many thousand migrants would not be helped. It is impossible to estimate the great value of their service. Yet, when they evaluate their experience at the close of the program, without exception they feel they have received more than they have given.

Year after year we find that these young people return to their churches colleges and communities with their faith strengthened and a zeal to help others. Many of them dedicate themselves to full-time Christian service and the Migrant Ministry thereby renders a service to the churches also.

It is through your support of the Migrant Ministry that this summer service program is made possible.

Have you ever stopped to wonder?

Have you ever stopped to wonder...  
 How it feels to be hungry and cold?  
 How fast a little money goes?  
 How a worn-out puppet can bring to a child glee?

Well, I have, and that's what this summer has meant to me.

Chris Woo

I'll not forget  
 the quiet searching eyes,  
 the warm smiles and laughs,  
 the will to learn, to share, to give,  
 the shyness which becomes friendliness.

I'll not forget  
 the bumpy Harvester,  
 the fields of green cotton,  
 the neat rows of hot, tiny cabins  
 the scorching sun and the cool shade.

I'll not forget  
 the children clustered around me,  
 the happy hands busy at work,  
 the glad shouts as we arrive,  
 the "when-will-you-be-back?" as we leave.

I'll not forget  
 the love I have found and seen,  
 the patience with a hard way of life,  
 the joy which comes into their lives  
 when they learn that Someone cares.

Ernst

This summer has meant growth to me through a deepening of my Christian faith. I found that through Him I had the courage to go on, even when most discouraged. I'm thankful for the experiences of this summer and hope I have been of service to Him.

Barbara Clawson



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MIGRANT

CIRCLE



Used by permission  
Friendship Press, Inc.  
"Migrants in the U. S. A."  
Picture Map

## COLORADO

The expansion of the Migrant Ministry in Colorado has been particularly rapid this past summer. Programs have been enlarged and strengthened. In addition, four new areas were served.

For the first time, an early spring program was undertaken in Delta. So well was this organized that when the staff member moved on to another new area, the women of the community continued the work into the summer.

At Prospect Valley, a successful program, which included Daily Vacation Bible School, visitation and recreation, was brought to a close with a Parent's Night that was well attended by the migrants and the people of the local community.

The city of Greeley also conducted a Migrant Ministry program for the first time in many years. The United Church Women, the local Council of Churches, and the ministers of the community, joined forces to establish and operate a Community Center for the many migrants who found their way to Greeley on Saturday and Sunday. This Center was more than just a place to rest and relax for there were classes in literacy, sewing, painting, and many other subjects.

The work at the Fort Lupton Farm Labor Camp continued to go well. In addition to the regular classes and clubs for all ages, the teenage program was particularly outstanding. Two baseball clinics attracted many boys and young men. Literacy classes for adults and others were conducted. The Community Health Clinic again proved its great value by supplying the needs of the migrant people.

Colorado is fortunate in having two state departments with an exceptional interest in and concern for the migrants. The State Public Health Departments in cooperation with the local Health Departments and the United States Public Health Service, has developed nationally recognized health services at both Fort Lupton and Palisade Farm Labor Camps. This year the service has also been extended to the migrants in the San Luis and Arkansas Valleys.

The Colorado State Office of Education has long proven its concern for the migrant children through a variety of effective programs. Last year in cooperation with the local school district they conducted an experimental "make-up" school in Wiggins. This experiment was so successful that a second school was established on the Western Slope at the Palisade Farm Labor Camp.

The children of both these schools participated in the hot-lunch programs. Careful records maintained by the school health officer indicated that the physical growth of these children was nothing short of miraculous. Teachers insist that the mental growth was even more astonishing. It is expected that the program will be further expanded next season.

At Fort Collins the Migrant Ministry program was conducted by a committee of United Church Women. Each day the Harvester and private cars brought the children from the surrounding farms to a Daily Vacation Bible School at the home of one of the women. Here the children not only learned the lessons found in the curriculum but also experienced (some for the first time) the privilege of being in a lovely home.

The Mexican Nationals also were served. The camp at Gilcrest was filled to overflowing with men far from home. Here the Migrant Ministry rendered an unique and valuable service as counselor, friend, interpreter, teacher, recreation leader, banker, letter-writer, and, most important of all, as minister and pastor.

The program on the Western Slope, particularly at the Palisade Farm Labor Camp, was exceptional. The Child Care Center conducted by the Mesa County Migrant Council deserves special mention. The teenage program also was unusual, not only in numbers and type of program, but because the young people did most of the planning.

Through the cooperation of the Mesa County Migrant Council, the Child Care Center, the "make-up" school, the Public Health Services and the Camp program, the finest and most extensive program ever held in Palisade was conducted and proved highly successful.

The San Luis Valley is another area served by the Colorado Migrant Ministry, for the first time this year. Beginning late in September a great many Navajo Indians and Spanish-American migrants arrive here to harvest the potato crop.

Community Centers were established in two of the towns in the Valley, where the migrants were able to find a place to relax and, more important, a place of friendliness.

During the week, the Harvester was busy visiting the many farms throughout the Valley, bringing books, toys, games, handicraft, friendship, and a Christian ministry to the migrant people.

## There Is Nothing Here?

A man stood in the middle of the road.  
"There is nothing here," he said.  
I can see for miles and miles....

A tree,  
A field,  
A jackrabbit,  
Telephone poles.....  
"There is nothing here", he said.

But, he was wrong.

"There is something here", I answered.  
"Here is a little bit of the whole world."  
"I will show you".

I will show you houses,  
small, crowded houses,  
With unscreened windows and  
tired chimneys.

I will show you people....  
Men tired from hard work,  
Women longing for security,  
Children wanting to "belong".

I will show you a little child  
Hugging a doll.  
Hugging it because he has never seen  
one before,  
Wanting it, just to want something,  
To have something,  
To belong to something....

I will show you people  
With every right to hate,  
Who love instead.  
And children, with every right to cry,  
Who laugh instead.  
I will show you Christ  
On the wall of a cabin,  
And in the hearts of the people  
Who live there.

"There is something here", I said.  
"There IS something".

Manuel was a man, for when a person marries, has his own cabin and his own car, he is a man.

But the cabin was still awfully barren so Manuel turned to the Migrant Ministry for help.

What did he want? Not furniture, not a bed, not blankets, nor even dishes, but Manuel wanted a Bible for, as Manuel said, no home should be without one.

With the help of the American Bible Society, Manuel got his Bible.



## CALIFORNIA

Summer and winter, spring and fall, no matter what the season, there are always migrants in California who need the services of the Migrant Ministry. The program, which is year-round, may shift from one area to another, but there is never a time when every staff member and all possible resources are not needed.

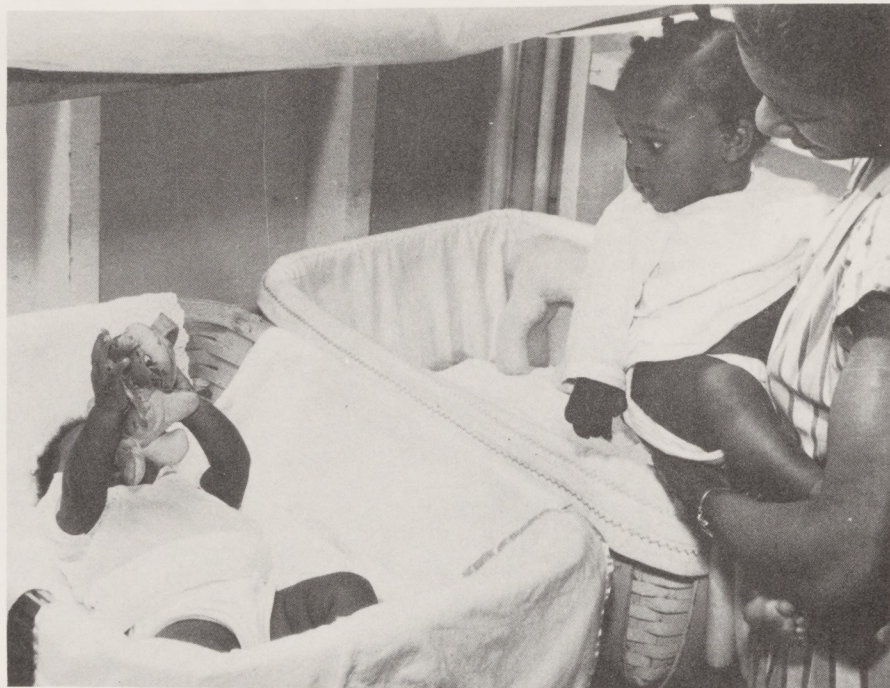
Although the need in the summer is perhaps no greater than at other times during the year, it is possible to greatly expand the program and to increase the available services through the volunteer services of the many young people who are willing to give their summer to the Migrant Ministry.

This past season, thirty-four young people representing nine denominations, participated as volunteers. After one week of intensive training at Modesto, they were divided into ecumenical teams. Each team, supervised by a regular staff member, was assigned to various areas throughout the state. This year it was possible to serve seven areas, one of which was reached for the first time.

The new area served was the San Joaquin County, where the ministry centered primarily around the Stockton-Lodi communities. This program so demonstrated the need and also the opportunities, that plans are now being made by the churches of the county to establish a year-round Migrant Ministry.

Another outstanding feature of the summer program was the use of local volunteers in the Santa Clara Valley program. In June the young people and adults living in that area and interested in serving as volunteers were invited to attend a two-day training conference. Instead of the thirty to forty persons that had been expected, one hundred and thirty-one were in attendance. As the summer progressed the program became so popular and inviting that a total of over one hundred and eighty individuals were serving regularly.

Tulare County is another area in which a new Migrant Ministry program has been started, to try to serve a year-round need. The numerous migrant camps are filled to overflowing during the cotton-picking season. Many Mexican Nationals are also found in the camps at various times of the year.



Many fringe areas in Tulare County need the guidance and help of the Church. Rev. Roger Thomas, who joined the staff in the spring, is developing an effective ministry to the migrant families and to the Nationals.

Under Mr. Arthur Churchill, who is serving as Field Representative for Rural Resettlement, a ministry to those living in the fringe areas is also emerging.

Another significant step forward in the California Migrant Ministry was the re-establishment of the state office in Fresno. This was made possible in June when Rev. Douglas Still took over the responsibilities as Director of the California Migrant Ministry. Mr. Still will make his home in Fresno and all matters pertaining to his area should be addressed to him at 5210 No. Augusta Street, Fresno, California.

Plans for the fall program call for the continuation and expansion of previous services.

On November 1st, work will be resumed in Imperial Valley when Miss Marie Basl returns from her assignment in Colorado. Fall work is already under way in Kern County and with cotton-picking in full swing throughout the San Joaquin Valley, the staff of the Migrant Ministry in Kings, Tulare and Fresno Counties are busy trying to meet the numerous demands and opportunities for service which exist everywhere.

It is expected that the ministry to the rural slums in the fringe areas will also be augmented during the coming months. Several denominations have evidenced interest and are ready to supply the resources and personnel needed to undertake some pilot projects.

Miserable;  
Insecure;  
Grasping;  
Restless;  
Abused;  
Neighborless;  
Tired:

Migrants, hesitant at first are  
Informed about a  
New life  
In Christ;  
See His love in others,  
and, in accepting Him,  
Triumph -----  
Remembering always, that  
YOU cared!

The layette was beautiful and it was easy to tell that some group of interested and concerned ladies had worked long and hard to complete it.

It was needed too, for baby Jose had arrived in the middle of the night, a whole month early. But the staff worker knew that even though baby Jose's mother had but three diapers and a worn blanket, she needed friendship and kindness more than the layette.

So, quickly the other women of the camp were called together and a baby shower was suggested. But the women were reluctant since they had no gifts to bring.

Happily the staff member brought out the lovely layette and each woman selected an article. These were wrapped in special gift wrappings and then twenty-three women visited Maria and tiny baby Jose. A happier and more surprised mother would be hard to imagine.

Now Maria has the little shirts, kimono and many other things that a tiny baby needs but she has much more, for she has twenty-three new friends.



## WASHINGTON

The Migrant Ministry of Washington and Northern Idaho started a new venture this past summer by securing "scholarship" funds to provide additional help in the migrant work within the area.

Once more the United Church Women responded. Through their help and contributions, the necessary funds to provide three "scholarships" were secured. This made it possible to add three workers to the summer staff of the Migrant Ministry and to reach many more of the 65,000 migrants who annually come to Washington and Northern Idaho.

These new workers participated in the staff training conference conducted by the Oregon Migrant Ministry for the young people who were to work in the Milton-Freewater area. Later, another training conference was held in the offices of the Council of Churches in Seattle. Words of praise and a sincere vote of thanks were extended to Miss Betty Whitaker and the Oregon Migrant Ministry for their help in both conferences.

The Okanogan Valley in the north central part of the state was the first area to be served by these volunteers. From there they moved to the Yakima Valley, where they augmented the long established work of Mr. and Mrs. Kring, the year-round migrant missionaries on the Washington Migrant Ministry staff.

The fast-growing Columbia Basin was the next stop. Here they were able to conduct a program at Moses Lake. This was the first time this area had been served by the Migrant Ministry. In every place where program was conducted, the response of the churches and the community was excellent. The churches were eager to help, not only in providing a rich spiritual ministry but also in undertaking a program of education and action designed to help the migrants find a better way of life for themselves and their children.

The Migrant Ministry as an agency of the Washington Council of Churches provides an excellent opportunity for the churches of Washington and Northern Idaho to unite in offering an interdenominational Christian ministry to the thousands of migrants who, each year, help to harvest the crops of the area.

The program of the Washington Migrant Ministry is varied. Included in the program is education, recreation, health services, visitation, referrals, vocational assistance and, most important of all, religious education and worship services.



## ARIZONA

When cotton begins to ripen and the bolls are open, ready to be picked, thousands upon thousands of migrants return to Arizona. Then the busy season for the Migrant Ministry is under way.

This year the Arizona Migrant Ministry will not be working alone. Governor McFarland, at the urging of the Migrant Ministry, has appointed an Advisory Committee on Seasonal Farm Labor.

On this Committee are representatives from eleven organizations such as Grower's Associations, the Church, welfare, labor, and law enforcement groups. In addition, there are five members at large from the agricultural counties and six consultant members from the State Department of Health, Public Instruction, Welfare, Employment security, the attorney general's office and the U. S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. H. Lynn Anderson, who is also chairman of the Arizona Migrant Committee, is seeking immediate as well as long-range solutions to the migrant problem. After careful study and a thorough investigation, they will have recommendations to submit to both Governor McFarland and to the State Legislature and the various State Departments.

The Arizona Migrant Ministry has also greatly strengthened and enlarged its own program. For the first time, a year-round field program director has been added to the staff. She is Miss Glad Burgeni, who will have responsibility for the work in Pinal and Pima Counties.

Pinal County will continue its service to the camps through the use of local volunteers. This year, in addition to stressing religious education and the development of women's fellowship groups in the camps, there will be an emphasis placed on literacy

classes, particularly among the Mexican Nationals.

Pima County, which used local volunteers for the first time last year, is continuing this season, but this year the program is being extended into four areas, Marana, Avra Valley, Continental and Sahuarita. A special two-day training conference was held to orient the volunteers in the use of the new curriculum and the best methods of conducting an "Escuelito" or "Little School".

The Marana-Avra Valley communities for several years have not had a resident physician, and farm workers had to be transported to Tucson for medical help. Because of the distance, many of them did not receive the help which they needed.

To correct this condition, the Marana-Avra Valley communities are planning the operation of a Community Health Clinic, to serve the needs of the permanent as well as the migrant farm laborers. Well-baby clinics and a health education program, which will include instruction in child care, nutrition and safety, will also be an important part of the Clinic's service.

The Guadalupe Child Care Center proved so valuable last season that its period of operation will be extended by three weeks. Facility improvements will also make it possible to care for more children. The staff of the Center will again be assisted by volunteer women from Mesa, Tempe, Chandler and Phoenix.

The Mennonite Service Unit has joined the Arizona Migrant Ministry in bringing a Christian ministry to the migrant camps in West Maricopa County. The unit is composed of from four to seven young people, all year-round volunteers, recruited and supported by the Mennonite denomination. The willingness of this group to accept the responsibility for these camps adds strength to the entire Arizona Migrant Ministry.

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## IDAHO

The Migrant Ministry in Idaho is only two years old but already they are conducting experimental programs which deserve national recognition. One of the most outstanding of these was the Remedial Education program at the Caldwell Farm Labor Camp.

This was a joint venture of the Migrant Ministry and the College of Idaho, located at Caldwell. Four teachers, all of whom received credit for supervised teaching from the College of Idaho, helped to make the program a success.

Special units of study were developed, each unit being built around the interest and needs of the migrant children. The four units selected were the Home, Transportation, Farming and Industry, and Idaho. Nearly seventy children of Spanish-speaking migratory workers benefited by these classes in remedial reading, which were conducted five mornings a week for six weeks.

In addition, a full schedule of other activities were conducted at the Farm Labor Camp. The community-wide evaluation session held at the close of the program commended the activities and plans were made to carry on a similar program next year.

A new demonstration project was also successfully completed in Magic Valley of Southern Idaho. This was sponsored by the churches of the Twin Falls area. Local volunteers from the churches of Twin Falls, Rupert and Paul, under the direction of a staff member of the Migrant Ministry, served two large migrant camps in the area. It is expected that the program will be further expanded next season.

## RUDY

There was Rudy - hiding behind a tree.

Nothing would convince him that we were his friends, that we had come to help him, that we loved him and wanted him to join in the program.

So there was Rudy, peeking every now and then to see what we were doing and giggling, self-conscious because of the bit of attention he was getting - even behind the tree.

Rudy had no spectacular story-book characteristics. He looked very much the same as the rest - dirty jeans, buttonless shirt, bare feet, shy smile. But Rudy is typical of the people with whom the Migrant Ministry works, and also typical of what the Ministry is able to accomplish.

For Rudy came out from behind the tree. He sawed and hammered and painted and sang. He learned to play and he learned to pray. He caught a vision and whispered it to a staff worker. "When I grow up, I want to be just like you".

As Zaccheus came down, Rudy came out from behind the tree. Christ, through a team of volunteer workers, had passed through the camp.



## OREGON

During the past season seven areas were served by the Oregon Migrant Ministry, one of these for the first time. In all areas the program was enlarged to serve more people with a greater variety of services.

The new program was near the city of Bend, where the harvest season is late. Migrants begin to arrive late in September. Aided by the Central Oregon Council of Churches, the Migrant Ministry is able to provide a varied program for all ages, for those on the small farms as well as for those who live in the migrant camps.

The Oregon Migrant Ministry has always shown a great deal of creative imagination in the development of their community programs. Each is tailored to the particular needs and resources of the local community. And each program has been a pioneering venture, often resulting in new and better ways of helping the migrant people.

Milton-Freewater is one of these pioneering projects. Carefully selected young people work half days in the canneries and volunteer half days in the Migrant Ministry. Under the careful supervision of two leaders employed by the Oregon Migrant Ministry, these young people give valuable service to the large Farm Labor Camp and to some of the smaller camps as well.

The Nyssa program, even though it is only three years old, has already gained national recognition. The results in the community have been amazing. Where there was antagonism and mistrust there is now a spirit of friendliness and fellowship. The fiesta held at the close of the program is just one indication of what has been accomplished. This year over 1,000 persons from the Labor Camp and the community attended this celebration. The Mexican food, music, games and many other things added to the good time but also meant increased understanding and respect between the migrants and the people of the community.

For several years the Washington County Migrant Committee, in cooperation with Professor Ruby Peregrine of Pacific Grove University and the students enrolled in the summer sessions, have presented a very effective program at the Hillsboro Farm Labor Camp. The program was excellent in spite of the lack of proper facilities.

This year, through the generosity of local builders, businessmen, the churches and scores of volunteers, a fine new building large enough to provide program space and housing for the staff was erected.

Yamhill County also has a program which is different. Linfield College at McMinnville, through its sociology department, has established what is called "student internships." The students selected, work with the migrants at the Eola Village Farm Labor Camp. Mrs. Andrew Wakeman and Richard Schneider, staff members of the Yamhill County Migrant Ministry, cooperate with the College in this work and supervise the students at the camp. Academic credit is given the students for this work. In addition to this work with the students, Mrs. Wakeman and Mr. Schneider, with the help of many local volunteers, carry on an intensive program at the camp throughout the year.

Salem is not to be outdone either, for this year the staff in the Salem area was souled, making it possible to reach twice as many camps and more than twice as many people. Two growers in the area were so impressed with the program that they erected a special building in one of their camps, just for such use.

Klamath Basin is another area where the program begins late in the fall with the coming of the potato harvest. Here the program is widely scattered, with some of the services extending into California to reach the Tulelake area. This is the third summer for the Klamath Basin program but the committee is already planning for still further expansion.



## WELCOME

New work and an expanded program requires additional staff. To meet this need the Migrant Ministry is pleased to welcome five new members. Each is particularly well-qualified in his or her field, and brings to the program new vision and enthusiasm.

Rev. Douglas M. Still, after an absence of three years, returns to the staff as the Director of the California Migrant Ministry. Prior to the fall of 1953, Mr. Still was the Director of migrant work in Kern County and in Santa Clara Valley.

Mr. and Mrs. Still with their three children will make their home in Fresno. His responsibility will be the migrant work throughout the state of California. His many friends join with the Migrant Ministry in extending a hearty welcome to Doug and his family.

Rev. Roger Thomas, a member of the Evangelical United Brethren Church, came to the staff in June. He and his family will reside in Porterville where Mr. Thomas will serve the migrant camps in Tulare County. He is being supported in his ministry by the E. U. B. Church.

Mr. Arthur Churchill began his service as "Field Representative for Rural Resettlement" on September 3rd. Under the sponsorship of the Congregational Christian Church, Mr. Churchill was formerly employed in Memphis, Tennessee, and they are continuing their support in the new work to which he is presently assigned.

An addition was made to the Arizona Migrant Ministry when Miss Glad Burgeni began her work as director of the Migrant Ministry in Pima and Pinal Counties on September 10th. Miss Burgeni was formerly employed by Y. W. C. A. as director of the teenage program. She will make her home at the 11 Mile Corner Camp near Coolidge.

Another addition to the California Migrant Ministry staff is Mr. David Peter Arnold, a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood. "Pete" served as a volunteer in the summer program and was so impressed with the need and challenged by the opportunities that he applied for permission to continue his volunteer service for the entire year.

## AU REVOIR

Reluctantly, it has been necessary to say "Goodbye" to two staff members whom we have grown to respect and love. Rev. Hal Foster, who for the past three years has been director of the Fresno Area Migrant Ministry, resigned in July to accept a call as pastor of the Community Presbyterian Church at Weed, Calif. Under his direction the work in Fresno gained increased respect and prestige. New programs were initiated and many services were expanded.

To Rev. and Mrs. Foster and their two children go the very best wishes of the Migrant Ministry for continued success in their new field of service.

Miss Joan Packard terminated her fifteen months of volunteer service at the close of the summer program. Although we are most reluctant to see her leave the Migrant Ministry, we do rejoice with her for on August 25th, Miss Packard and Mr. Robt. Lindegren were united in marriage.

The Migrant Ministry wishes for them the richest blessings that life has to offer and pray that the ministry for which they are preparing may be fruitful and rewarding.

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